

44714

1 B. O. Control Div 1  
2 Mr Gmaga Div 5B  
3 Mr Knowles Theo House  
4 Delany

---

---

---

---

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WEST HARTLEPOOL



# ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE HEALTH OF  
WEST HARTLEPOOL  
FOR THE YEAR 1954

JOHN W. McKEGGIE

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER



---

---

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WEST HARTLEPOOL



# ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE HEALTH OF  
WEST HARTLEPOOL  
FOR THE YEAR 1954

JOHN W. McKEGGIE

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER




# INDEX

	<i>Page</i>		<i>Page</i>
Acts—Local and Adoptive ..	12	Residential Accommodation ..	28, 29
Ambulance Facilities ..	24, 25	Sanitary circumstances—	
Area .. .. .	8	Abattoir .. .. .	42, 43, 73
Births .. .. .	8, 53	Animals—Diseases of ..	46
Birth Rate .. .. .	8, 53	Atmospheric Pollution ..	48, 49, 50, 51
Bye-laws and Regulations ..	12	Bye-laws—Premises controlled	
Cancer Deaths .. .. .	8, 60, 61	by .. .. .	12, 47
Day Nursery .. .. .	16	Common Lodging Houses ..	47
Deaths .. 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60		Condemned Food .. .. .	42, 68
Death Rate .. .. .	8, 60	Factories Acts .. .. .	74
Domestic Help Service ..	26	Food and Drugs .. .. .	69, 70, 71, 72
Health Committee .. .. .	9	Food Hygiene .. .. .	40, 41
Health Visiting .. .. .	22	Housing .. .. .	37, 38
Home Nursing Service ..	23	Ice-cream .. .. .	44
Immunisation .. .. .	24	Milk and Dairies .. .. .	43, 44
Infant Deaths .. .. .	20, 21	Overcrowding .. .. .	38
Infantile Mortality .. 13, 14, 15, 62, 63		Pet Animals' Act .. .. .	48
Infantile Mortality Rates ..	8, 62	Prevention of damage by pests	52
Infectious Diseases ..	46, 64, 65, 66	Rag and Bone Dealers ..	47
Inhabited Houses—No. of ..	8	Rag Flock Act .. .. .	48
Legislation in Force .. .. .	12	Report—A. H. Basford ..	33, 34
Mass Radiography .. .. .	26, 27	Sanitary Defects .. .. .	36
Maternal Deaths .. .. .	20	Sanitary Inspection .. ..	35
Maternity and Child Welfare—		Shops Act, 1950 .. .. .	47
Ante-Natal Clinic .. .. .	17, 19	Slum Clearance .. .. .	38, 39, 40
Clinics .. .. .	16, 17	Water Supply .. .. .	45
Defects found in Infants ..	18	Staff—Public Health ..	9, 10, 11
Feeding—Methods of .. ..	17	Stillbirths .. .. .	8
Report—Dr. J. F. Farquhar ..	16	Tuberculosis—	
—Dr. A. C. Ross .. ..	16	Notified Cases .. .. .	67
Mental Health .. .. .	31, 32	Report—Dr. J. B. Robinson ..	28
Midwifery .. .. .	21, 22	Survey of Work .. .. .	28
National Assistance Act, 1948	28, 29, 30, 31	Unmarried Mothers—Care of ..	22
Population .. .. .	8, 53	Vaccination .. .. .	24
Premature Birth .. .. .	15, 16	Vital Statistics .. .. .	8
Product of the Penny Rate ..	8	Welfare Foods—Distribution of ..	19
Rateable Value .. .. .	8	Wind Records .. .. .	51

# APPENDICES

---

<i>Appendix</i> No.		<i>Page</i> No.
1	Births, Birth Rate, Natural Increase of Population ..	53
2	Deaths in the Wards .. .. .	54, 55
3	Deaths, Causes of and Age .. .. .	56, 57
4	Deaths, Chest Diseases—weekly return .. .. .	58, 59
5	Deaths .. .. .	60
6	Transferable Deaths .. .. .	60
7	Death Rates.. .. .	60
8	Cancer Deaths .. .. .	60
9	Cancer Deaths—Parts of the Body Affected .. .. .	61
10	Infantile Mortality Rate .. .. .	62
11	Infantile Mortality in the Wards .. .. .	62
12	Infant Mortality deaths from stated causes .. .. .	63
13	Notifiable Diseases—Hospital Cases .. .. .	64
14	Notified Cases of Infectious Diseases, 1933-54 .. .. .	65
15	Infectious Diseases—Age Groups and Ward Distribution	66
16	Tuberculosis—Notified Cases, 1954 .. .. .	67
17	Unsound Food Surrendered to Sanitary Inspectors ..	68
18	Sale of Food and Drugs Act—Adulterated Samples	69, 70, 71, 72
19	Public Abattoir .. .. .	73
20	Factories' Acts, 1937 and 1948 .. .. .	74



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2018 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30260978>



# REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1954

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
VICTORIA ROAD,  
WEST HARTLEPOOL.

JULY, 1955.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
County Borough of West Hartlepool.*

I have the honour to present my twenty-fifth Annual Report on the health and sanitary services and circumstances of the County Borough of West Hartlepool for 1954.

The year under review will only be remembered as a very wet year with a cold winter and for no conspicuous improvement in the vital statistics for the town. There was a slight increase in the death rate — 11.36— compared with 10.98 last year : this represents 30 more deaths in a population of 72,500. The birth rate fell from 19.15 to 18.54 or a decrease of 41 births —1,385 in 1953 to 1,344 in 1954. Unfortunately, with a decreasing birth rate our infant mortality rate went up from 40 per 1,000 to 46 per 1,000 births ; details of these figures and circumstances relating to them are developed more fully later in the report.

The chief causes of deaths—824—were 234 attributed to Heart Diseases, 130 to Cancer, 92 to Vascular Disease of the Nervous System e.g. hæmorrhage of the brain, 67 to Bronchitis and 47 to Pneumonia.

There occurred 62 deaths in children under 1 year, then for all ages together up to 25 years the figure totals 24 ; age group 25-45 gives a figure of 47, or nearly double ; 186 died between 45 and 65, then 505 or much more than half the full total died after 65 and for consolation much more than half of this latter figure lived to be over 75.

Apart from a high incidence of Measles, infectious disease was of no great consequence on the notifications, but as a point of interest, there were only 2 cases of Poliomyelitis notified and for the third year in succession, no cases of Diphtheria were notified.

Of the infant deaths—62, 24 died of premature birth and 16 of Pneumonia. Motor accident deaths last year showed a figure of 5, two of which were transferred, against 15 this year, of which 11 were transferred.

So much for vital statistics.

In regard to other matters affecting health, it will be seen that 315 houses were represented for demolition—18 individual houses and 297 in clearance areas. 316 houses and 252 flats were built by the Corporation and 52 by private individuals. There are 21,832 occupied dwellings in the area, giving an average figure of 3.2 persons per house.

In spite of good progress made during the last two years there are still many properties to be dealt with and slum clearance is going on at a considerable pace and a figure of 447 overcrowded dwellings is shown at the end of the year, involving 453 families numbering 2,958 people. How many of these families were on the housing list it is difficult to know but the list still remains in the neighbourhood of 1,500.

During the year the Council decided in principle to establish a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre on the Owton Manor Estate. This would be the first premises in the shape of a clinic the Council have ever built and I hope that it will not be forgotten or lost in discussions, as to whether it should be combined with this, that and the other field of local government development, or come under the dreadful axe of economy, national or local, for I have got so used to hearing the favourite excuse that "the time is not appropriate." Further, I would call attention to the Victoria Road Nursery. Built as a temporary building during the war, it has now established itself in peacetime as a real need for certain types of its occupants. The time is ripe to regard it and its situation; whether a new one should be built or whether elsewhere or on the present site, for it is gradually disintegrating by ordinary usage, accentuated by many other depredations.

I am often struck with the number of people who have not the faintest idea of what a Medical Officer of Health does, and who vaguely believe that he is a qualified doctor with some special diploma or other, who sits in an office and is somehow or other associated with infectious diseases and sanitary inspectors. Well, that is correct so far, and more nearly right if you gather all the facts in his Annual Report and remember that he is intimately concerned with it all, and responsible for what is here reported. But what a small portion of his work this reveals. He is far more than the Managing Director of a small concern, although he has all this to do as part of his job. You see the size of his staff and the various homes and institutions coming under his care, and each has to be run as a home—goods ordered, accounts paid, diet sheets approved, renewals arranged, repairs seen to, inmates' health, clothing and comforts supervised and he must listen to criticism from all, both staff and committees. Huge stocks of food are ordered for homes, babies, toddlers, etc. and comforts, amusements, indoor and out, annual outings etc., arranged. All these are governed by the Council who levy the rates and who have to be guided by officials who calculate how much is required and how much will be involved by any new arrangement and this amount he must know or guess and be able to substantiate. But all this is routine and does not by any means fill his day's work. It is the unexpected, the casual visitor, and I do not mean travellers for food and drugs etc., but the ordinary citizen, with his complaints or his difficulties, who somehow or other lands up in the Medical Officer of Health's office, where he now becomes a one-man citizens' advice bureau—adviser for all



ages, babies, toddlers, schoolchildren, adults and old age people. These come along with family squabbles, awkward households, lack of accommodation, family desertions, tracing of family connections for old people in distress, removal of patients to hospital and hostel, often at a distance, arrangements of times of trains, compartments or stretchers in the train, ambulance, say in London, to meet train and someone instructed to accompany them. Can I requisition a vacant bed in a hostel to allow one discharge from the old and infirm ward to permit another aged sick to get into hospital? Persuading relatives to take people when ready for discharge from hospital and with nowhere to go. Take charge of the furniture and hold it in safety and so forth, and finish off with funerals, life policies, etc.

Housing problems seem endless and all types are encountered. Landlords and tenants are, on the whole, good. It is only the very few that are bad and unfortunately the bad are usually very voluble and "create" most.

A successful Health Department is not news. It is only when epidemics have occurred, or some such disaster, which interests or frightens the population that they are heard of and so, by and large, if they are not heard of, they have probably been doing their work quietly and usually efficiently.

This sounds like blowing my own trumpet but it is only included for general information to show in how many ways we can help, but for me it is all over and in 25 years I have found the public in their private capacity very sympathetic and helpful; very trusting of the Medical Officer of Health and his work. In all these years, visiting houses, shops, business premises, factories, workshops, schools, solicitors, clergymen, government and local officials, I have never once been asked to show any card, letter or what have you of my authority.

I have given advice or been consulted by thousands and one wonders with what success. As far as I know, I have made no enemies and no bitterness has been laid at my door, but I recognise that the majority of our people suffer in silence.

One wonders at the end of a long period how I feel about leaving it all. The main feeling is sadness that there is so much still to do and a hope that someone else will carry it on further and better than I have done. It has all been so varied but intensely interesting and I wish to express, to the Council, the members of the Health Committee, my fellow Chief Officials, my own staff and all the other people interested in health matters, my appreciation of their invaluable help and my thanks to all who have contributed in any way and helped me in my work and in the production of this report.

I remain,

*Your Medical Officer of Health,*

J. W. McKEGGIE.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (Square miles) .....	6.98
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate, 1954) .....	72,500
No. of Inhabited Houses on 31st December, 1954 according to the Rate Books .....	21,832
Rateable Value (1st April, 1954) .....	£451,637
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (31st March, 1954) .....	£1,775
Birth Rate .....	18.54
Death Rate .....	11.36
Infantile Mortality Rate .....	46.00

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	
Live Births—				$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Birth Rate per 1,000 of the} \\ \text{estimated resident popu-} \\ \text{lation — 18.54.} \end{array} \right.$
Legitimate ..	1,294	691	603	
Illegitimate ..	50	27	23	

Stillbirths 38. Rate per 1,000 total population — 0.52.

Deaths 824. Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—11.36.

Deaths from puerperal causes — Nil.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births—

Legitimate 43.1. Illegitimate 2.9. Total 46.0.

Deaths from Cancer .....	130
Deaths from Measles (all ages) .....	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) .....	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years) .....	—



## HEALTH COMMITTEE

1954-55

ALDERMAN HAND	COUNCILLOR KING
COUNCILLOR MRS. BREWARD	COUNCILLOR McCANN
COUNCILLOR BRISTOW	COUNCILLOR MRS. MILLER
COUNCILLOR D'ALBY	COUNCILLOR TAYLOR
COUNCILLOR HARTLEY— <i>Chairman</i>	COUNCILLOR YULE
COUNCILLOR JONES	DR. CRABB
	DR. RISHWORTH

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.  
PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health, Principal School Medical Officer, etc.—  
J. W. McKEGGIE, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health—  
A. C. ROSS, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer of Health—  
JEAN FLOYD FARQUHAR, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Ophthalmic Surgeon (Part-time)—  
A. T. G. EVANS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.O.M.S.

Aural Specialist—  
L. V. ARUNDEL, F.R.C.S.

School Dentists—  
MISS M. I. MANLEY, L.D.S.—(Senior School Dental Officer)  
A. G. WILDGOOSE, L.D.S.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Inspector under Food and Drugs Acts—  
A. H. BASFORD, D.P.A., A.M.I.S.E. (1, 2, 3, 4)

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector—  
J. F. EDWARDS (1, 2, 3, 4)

Sanitary Inspectors and Inspectors under Food and Drugs Acts—	
E. H. BARNETT (1)	Commenced 30/8/54
A. J. BELL (1, 2)	Resigned 27/6/54
H. H. BOWES (1, 2)	
D. H. GILBERTSON (1)	Commenced 22/3/54
E. M. PETCH (1, 2)	Resigned 30/6/54
A. F. THEAKSTONE (1, 2)	Commenced 1/9/54
G. W. WHITE (1, 2)	Resigned 31/1/54

Pupil Sanitary Inspector—  
R. KNOX

**Key to Professional Qualifications.**

1. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute & Sanitary Inspectors Exam. Joint Board.
2. Meat and Other Foods Inspector's Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.
3. Smoke Inspector's Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.
4. Sanitary Science Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.



Lay Administrative Officer and Duly Authorised Officer

W. P. YUILL

Assistant Lay Administrative Officer and Duly Authorised Officer

W. E. SIMPSON

Health Visitors—

MISS A. FIELDS	(Gen. Trained, Cert. Midwife, H.V. Cert.) Superintendent Health Visitor
MRS. C. E. HENDERSON	(Cert. Midwife, H.V. Cert.)
MISS A. S. BAGSHAW	(Gen. Trained, Cert. Midwife, H.V. Cert.)
MISS C. SEYMOUR	(Gen. Trained, Cert. Midwife, H.V. Cert.) Resigned 31/5/54
MISS E. M. PHILLIPS	(Gen. Trained, Cert. Midwife, H.V. Cert., obtained March, 1954)
MRS. M. CROSS	(Gen. Trained, Cert. Midwife, H.V. Cert., obtained March, 1954)
MRS. M. DOUGLAS	Trainee Health Visitor. Commenced 28/6/54
MISS D. BROWN	Trainee Health Visitor. Commenced 9/11/53

Municipal Midwives—

MRS. E. GALLOWAY	No. 93510
MRS. M. BRAND	No. 98274
MRS. K. F. GALLIMORE	No. 90631
MRS. W. PICKERING	No. 74766
MRS. L. R. WALKER	No. 104224
MRS. J. TURNBULL	No. 76151
MISS M. A. MILNE	No. 118712
MRS. O. KAY	No. 67863      Resigned 31/12/54

Home Nurses—

MRS. E. COOPER	
MRS. E. HUGILL	
MRS. I. HESLOP	
MRS. E. M. GARDINER	
MRS. H. JEFFERSON	
MRS. M. LISTER	Commenced 9/6/54
MRS. M. CHARLTON	Commenced 13/12/54

Nurse Almoner—

MRS. S. LAMBERT	(Gen. Trained)
-----------------	----------------

Home Help Organiser—

MISS A. STOTT

Matron, Victoria Road Day Nursery—

MRS. N. HALL

Warden, Hazelhurst Hostel—

MISS M. CARLING	Commenced 1/3/54
-----------------	------------------

Superintendent, Briarfields Hostel—  
T. MORGAN

Superintendent, Dinsdale Lodge—  
G. S. WIDDOWFIELD

Supervisor Occupation Centre—  
MRS. L. M. DUNNING

School Nurses—

MISS E. WITTEN (Gen. Trained, Reg. Sick Children's  
Nurse. Senior School Nurse)

MISS O. MAVIN, S.R.N., R.S.C.N.

MISS I. S. HIND, S.R.N., S.C.M.

MISS M. P. LOWERY, S.R.N.

Clerks—

C. W. SMITH (Senior Clerk)

W. USHER

K. G. CODLING

Resigned 10/10/54

I. M. DEAS

R. HENDERSON

R. ATKINSON

MISS L. JARROLD (Senior Clerk/Typist)

MISS M. MACKIN

MISS J. KINGSTON

MRS. M. ANDERSON

MISS A. STRINGER

MISS E. M. STODDART

MISS K. POUNDER

MISS B. ATKINSON

MISS B. TRUEFITT

MISS K. EVANS

Commenced 28/6/54

MISS S. APPELEGARTH

Commenced 5/7/54

Ambulance Officer—  
J. ATKINSON

Abattoir Superintendent—  
W. GRAZIER

Re-appointed 2/7/54

Public Analyst (part-time)—  
C. J. H. STOCK, B.Sc., F.I.C.

Rodent Officer—

R. ATKINSON transferred to Clerical Staff—November, 1954.

## LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

### LIST OF LOCAL ACTS, ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYELAWS AND LOCAL REGULATIONS RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH.

#### LOCAL ACTS :—

West Hartlepool Extension and Improvement Act, 1870.

West Hartlepool Corporation Act, 1931.

#### BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS :—

Public Market, 1892 ; Sea Banks, 1905 ; Sanitary Conveniences, 1909 ; Public Abattoir, 1917 ; Employment of Children, 1920 and 1934 ; Good Rule (Nuisances), 1920 ; Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc., 1921 ; Houses-let-in lodgings, 1922 ; Fouling of Footway by Dogs, 1930 ; Noisy Organs and Musical Instruments, 1931 ; Slaughter House, 1931 and 1935 ; Removal of House Refuse, 1934 ; Removal of Offensive Matter, 1934 ; Litter, 1934 ; Common Lodging Houses, 1934 ; Public Abattoir Regulations, 1935 ; Clean Handling of Food, 1950.

#### ADOPTIVE ACTS :—

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890 ; Public Health Acts, Amendment Act, 1890, as amended by Public Health Act, 1936 ; Public Health Act, Amendment Act, 1907, as amended by the Public Health Act, 1936 (with the exception of Sections 17, 21, 30, 31, 32, 80, 85 and 91) ; Public Health Act, 1925, as amended by the Public Health Act, 1936.

#### STATUTORY LEGISLATION :—

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933	}	and orders and Regulations made under these Acts.
Public Health Act, 1936		
Housing Acts, 1936-1949		
Food and Drugs Act, 1938-1944		
Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948		
Water Act, 1945-1948		
National Health Service Act, 1946-1949		
Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949		
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949		
Shops' Act, 1950		
Pet Animals Act, 1951.		
National Assistance Act, 1948		
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951		



## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

I have been greatly concerned regarding the Infant Mortality rate which again is well above the national figure.

We seemed to progress well until 1951 when a continued decline in the deaths corresponded to the national circumstances and the graph of local cases continued its satisfactory decline, but since that year there has been an increase in the two following years, showing an unexpected rise in 1953, continuing in 1954 and with figures so far available, seems to be running into 1955. There has been extreme difficulty in getting Health Visitors which we usually associate with the variation in the Infant Mortality rate : but is this true, for in spite of shortages the figure until two years ago continued to decline. Are we now suffering from a long-term effect of this shortage or is some other factor at work.

The figures of preventive deaths and deaths during the neo-natal period are rather alarming. The number of deaths of children in hospital before they come under the care of the local authority is much in excess of those born outside. Whilst admitting that there are probably some difficult cases, and this is perhaps not a fair comparison, I am left wondering if something we could do earlier in the ante-natal period might prevent these figures, but what that is, I am not prepared to say. I have collected most exhaustive figures and controls for a number of years now and when a sufficient time has passed, probably my successor will be able to make a fair assessment of all the circumstances.

A private survey over a number of years was analysed by the Institute of Social Medicine at Oxford for us but revealed little that a local authority could obviously do. It is hoped that the new, more detailed investigation which is under way may reveal something more tangible.

A few years ago I pleaded for a pædiatrician for the area but here again we failed to produce the evidence necessary. The deaths take place before they can possibly be got under his care unless there is very close working between departments and consultants. As regards the Ante-natal Clinic, previously done by members of my staff and General Practitioners, I have now available the services of the Hospital Consultant, who runs the clinic for the local authority, now in different premises, and associated with the hospital dealing with women's diseases, etc.

I am publishing various statistics, not with a view to criticising, but that there may be something with which to compare future years and if the pointers continue, how we may approach our troubles may be more clearly indicated.

This year we have managed to increase our numbers of Health Visitors by a pupil Health Visitors' scheme of assisted training and of an establishment of nine, we are now at five, having been reduced to three by retirements and transfers elsewhere, and we will have another two added by training next year. These, of course, have been supplemented by qualified nurses, who, however, are not fully trained Health Visitors, otherwise the work could not have gone on, but the district visiting has suffered.

We were anticipating a better figure for Infant Mortality with a smaller percentage in prospect but the figure keeps on rising and 67% of confinements are hospitalised. Is this figure now necessary when we have added 316 more council houses this year and are continually progressing with slum clearance and so forth.

All new doctors arriving in the area have to produce evidence of actual hospital or other wide experience before they are placed on the obstetric list and collaboration with the Obstetric Consultants in giving the necessary hospital experience is of the closest.

Has the time not now arrived to reverse this hospitalisation phase, and would this help in achieving a falling Infant Mortality rate and the other psychological advantages claimed for home confinements? More and better housing is available and improving year by year. Adequate help in the form of home helps is available, and would this reversal help to free beds in hospitals for other cases. I am afraid time and trial only will reveal.

## INFANT MORTALITY.

Total births .....	1,344	
Born in hospital .....	908	67.5%
Born at home .....	436	32.5%
Total deaths.....	62	
Infantile Mortality rate.....	46	
Total died in hospital.....	46	
Total died at home.....	16	
Number born in hospital and died in hospital.....	37	
Number born at home and died in hospital.....	8	
Number born at home and died at home.....	8	
Number of deaths under 1 month .....	39	
Number of deaths under 1 month born in hospital...	30	
Number of deaths 1-3 months .....	1	
Number of premature births in hospital died 1 day or under .....	18	
Number of premature births in hospital died 7 days or under .....	7	

## PREMATURE BIRTHS NOTIFIED.

Number notified .....	89	
Born in hospital .....	78	
Born at home .....	11	
Number died .....	6	
Born in hospital .....	5	}
Born at home .....	1	
Died in hospital.....	4	}
Died at home.....	2	

## PREMATURE BIRTHS.

REPORT BY MIDWIFE SPECIALLY APPOINTED TO DEAL WITH  
PREMATURE BIRTHS.

No. attended .....	89
Number born in hospital.....	78
Number born at home.....	11
Number of deaths.....	5
Total visits.....	2,000
<i>Age at death</i>	<i>Cause of death</i>
8 months	Broncho Pneumonia
7    ,,	Acute Bronchitis
3    ,,	Congenital Heart
4    ,,	Congestion of lungs and Brain
	Atelectasis
3    ,,	Acute congestion of lungs.



Some 8-10 visits are made daily including night visits, which are cut out after 14 days unless the baby is poorly. Babies born at home, as a rule, receive the greater attention, because it may be taken for granted that the others are well on the way when discharged from hospital. Routine visits are stopped after the baby has attained a weight of 6 lbs. but follow-up visits are maintained. Unfortunately, for various reasons, not all the babies born under 5 lbs. 8 ozs. are referred to us immediately but the others are usually picked up by Midwives or Health Visitors on their rounds. Over 2,000 visits were made during the year.

### WELFARE CENTRES.

The total number of children attending the Centres in the town show a slight decrease from the previous year. This in part must be due to the shortage of Health Visitors as the work they do has to be confined to essential visiting of mothers and children.

The opening of the Owton Manor Centre is a welcome addition to the welfare facilities available and it has proved to be one of the busiest of the Centres.

Immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough is given to all the infants and continues to be a valuable part of the preventative services carried out.

### VICTORIA ROAD DAY NURSERY.

The numbers this year have been very similar to last, and the nursery has not been full to capacity. The fabric of the building, which was never meant to be anything but temporary, is showing signs of wear and tear. Some painting was done inside this year and gave the nursery a new look which has an uplifting effect on the occupants.

The seasonal epidemics had a rather devastating effect on the attendances. However, one is glad to note there were no cases of serious illness and the appetites, weights and well-being of the children remain satisfactory. The summer being what it was the children did not get as many outside activities as one would have liked. However, we keep hoping and it may be that next summer will make up for what was missed this year.

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The following tables show the nature of the work done at the Clinics and the conditions found :—

## ANTE-NATAL AND INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Centre	Total No. of children attending Centre	Total attend- ances	No. of children who made first attend- ances	No. of visits made by these children	No. of children who attended in previous years	No. of visits made by these children	No. of new attenders under one year	No. of new attenders between 1—5	Ante- natal attenders
Mill House . . . . .	—	484	—	—	—	—	—	—	197
Dale Street . . . . .	373	2,922	126	879	247	2,043	122	4	—
Seaton Carew . . . . .	53	924	45	417	8	507	37	8	—
Oxford Street . . . . .	475	4,138	218	1,574	257	2,564	205	13	—
Rossmere Way . . . . .	96	1,644	31	645	65	999	23	8	—
St. Matthew's . . . . .	307	3,298	178	1,595	129	1,703	167	11	—
Burbank Street . . . . .	325	2,395	149	2,308	176	87	143	6	—
St. Luke's . . . . .	445	4,204	166	1,716	279	2,488	160	6	—
Totals . . . . .	2,074	20,009	913	9,134	1,161	10,391	857	56	197

## METHODS OF FEEDING (FIRST ATTENDERS).

Method	ALL CENTRES		
	Regular Hours	Irregular	Total
Natural (Breast) . . . . .	333	—	333
Artificial (various) . . . . .	511	—	511
Combined (natural and artificial) . . . . .	43	—	43
Breast feeding over 1 year of age . . . . .	1	—	1
Children over 1 year—various diets . . . . .	67	—	67
Totals . . . . .	955	—	955

## DEFECTS FOUND IN INFANTS ATTENDING CENTRES

	Dale Street	Seaton	Oxford Street	Rossmere Way	St. Matthew's	Burbank Street	St. Luke's	Total
Anæmia	1	—	2	2	—	—	1	6
Bronchitis	8	1	8	1	3	1	3	25
Circumcision	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Conjunctivitis	7	5	3	3	1	—	8	27
Constipation	2	—	6	3	—	7	1	19
Dental Defects	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Diarrhœa	3	—	5	5	—	3	7	23
Eczema	—	2	1	4	—	1	—	8
Enlarged Glands	—	—	9	1	—	3	—	13
Eye Defects	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	3
Feeding								
Difficulties	24	—	9	6	4	—	24	67
Green Stools	—	1	9	1	—	7	—	18
Impetigo	4	—	—	3	—	—	1	8
Inguinal Hernia	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
Nævis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Nasal Catarrh	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	3
Otic Defects	—	—	—	3	—	1	1	5
Otitis Media	—	—	11	—	1	—	—	12
Otorrhœa	—	—	3	1	—	5	—	9
Phimosis	1	3	—	13	2	3	1	23
Physical Defects	3	1	7	6	—	1	8	26
Protruding								
Umbilicus	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	4
Rash	4	3	21	12	1	42	—	83
Scabies	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	5
Seborrhœa	8	2	—	3	—	—	15	28
Skin Diseases	3	—	—	2	—	—	1	6
Sore Buttocks	4	—	—	2	—	2	4	12
Strabismus	2	3	—	2	—	1	—	8
Stomatitis	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	3
Thrush	—	—	1	5	1	6	—	13
Umbilical Defects	4	—	—	10	—	11	3	28
Umbilical Hernia	1	2	14	7	—	14	3	41
Urticaria	4	—	—	—	—	—	2	6
Vomiting	3	1	11	12	2	13	6	48
Worms	—	—	2	2	—	2	—	6
Other Defects	16	1	14	30	5	36	25	127
Totals ..	106	27	143	144	22	164	115	721



## ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

Total attendances during 1954 .....	484
Cases referred by Practitioners for Consultation .....	24
Malpresentation .....	11
External Version Performed .....	7
Pregnancy Hæmorrhage .....	7
Pregnancy Toxæmia .....	6
Heart Disease in Pregnancy .....	1
Cephalo-pelvic Disproportion .....	1
Anæmia in Pregnancy .....	11
Hydramnios .....	1
Intrauterine Death .....	1
Previous Abnormal Obstetric History (including previous Cæsarean Section) .....	6
Social Welfare .....	3
Abnormal Wassermann Reactions .....	2
Transferred from other Health Authority Clinics .....	2
Referred for Hospital Confinement .....	5

## DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOODS.

The administration and distribution of Welfare Foods was transferred from the Ministry of Food to the Local Health Authority on the 28th June, 1954. The distribution facilities remained the same as previously except that foods were distributed from the Health Department as well as the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Issues for the period 28th June, 1954 to the 31st December, 1955 were as follows :—

National Dried Milk (tins) .....	24,536
Cod Liver Oil (bottles) .....	4,685
Vitamin A & D Tablets (packets) .....	1,240
Orange Juice (bottles) .....	20,043

## GENERAL HOSPITAL AND GRANTULLY MATERNITY HOME.

The following are details of the maternity cases treated in the General Hospital and Grantully Maternity Home :

	<i>General Hospital</i>	<i>Grantully Maternity Home</i>
No. of maternity beds in the Institution .....	22	21
No. of maternity cases admitted during the year ....	541	464
Average duration of stay (days) .....	12.8	12
No. of cases delivered by (a) Midwives .....	395	269
(b) Doctors .....	146	171

	<i>Grantully</i> <i>General Maternity</i> <i>Hospital Home</i>	
No. of cases in which medical aid was sought by mid-wives in emergency.....	59	—
No. of cases notified as Puerperal Pyrexia.....	5	4 (2 Mastitis, 2 Pyrexia)
No. of cases of Pemphigus Neonatorum .....	—	—
No. of infants not entirely breast-fed whilst in the institution .....	98	52
No. of cases notified as Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	—	—
No. of maternal deaths and causes of death .....	1	—
	Puerperal Ileus	
No. of infant deaths—		
(a) Still-born, number and cause of death .....	27	4
(b) Within 10 days—number and cause of death..	18	1
Cause of Infant Deaths—		
(a) Antepartum Hæmorrhage .....	7	
Eclampsia.....	3	
Toxæmia.....	4	
Premature 28 weeks .....	5	
,, 30-32 weeks .....	6	
,, 32-35 weeks .....	2	
	—	
	27	
	==	
(a) Premature Anencephalic .....		1
Premature Macerated Fœtus.....		1
Accidental Hæmorrhage.....		1
Premature Toxæmia Pregnancy .....		1
		—
		4
		==
(b) Prematurity 28 weeks .....	6	
,, 32 weeks .....	4	
,, 35 weeks .....	1	
Eclampsia.....	1	
Pulmonary Atelectasis .....	4	
Intracranial Hæmorrhage .....	2	
	—	
	18	
	==	
(b) Prematurity .....		1

## HARTLEPOOLS HOSPITAL.

The following are details of the maternity cases treated in Hartlepoons Hospital.

1. No. of births .....	253
2. No. of maternity cases admitted during the year .....	296
3. No. of cases notified as Puerperal Pyrexia .....	3
4. No. of cases of Pemphigus Neonatorum .....	—
5. No. of cases notified as Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	—
6. No. of maternal deaths and causes of death .....	—
7. No. of infant deaths—	
(a) Still-born—number and causes of death .....	5
1 hydro-cephalus	
1 intra-uterine death following thyroidectomy in pregnancy	
1 accidental hæmorrhage	
1 prolonged labour	
1 reaction to maternal blood transfusion	
(b) Within 10 days—number and causes of death....	6
3 cases of prematurity at 28 weeks with maternal toxæmia in two cases	
1 case of prematurity at 36 weeks with maternal toxæmia	
1 maternal heart disease and prematurity	
1 neonatal atelectasis	

## MIDWIFERY.

## CASES ATTENDED DURING 1954 .

	<i>As Midwives</i>	<i>As Maternity Nurses</i>
BY MUNICIPAL MIDWIVES .....	417	19

## MIDWIVES' ACTS, 1902-1936.

CONDITIONS FOR WHICH DOCTORS WERE SUMMONED  
IN AN EMERGENCY BY MIDWIVES.

PREGNANCY—		PUERPERIUM—	
Ante partum hæmorrhage .....	1	Post-partum hæmorrhage ...	4
Toxæmia.....	2	Illness of mother .....	1
Phlebitis .....	1		
Threatened miscarriage .....	1		
Nephritis .....	1		
	—		—
	6		5
	==		==



## LABOUR—

Retained placenta.....	5
Uterine inertia.....	2
Delayed 2nd stage .....	3
Premature twin labour.....	1
Premature labour .....	2
High forcep delivery.....	2
Ruptured perineum .....	30
Precipitate labour.....	1

—  
46  
=

## INFANTS—

Cyanosis .....	2
Prematurity .....	4

—  
6  
=

## CARE OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS.

25 Unmarried Mothers were assisted during the year. Of these 10 girls were admitted to maternity homes for confinement and 15 remained at home.

## HEALTH VISITING.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Visits to children under one year of age—Primary visits.....	1,442
Secondary visits .....	3,348
Visits to children between the ages of 1 and 5 years .....	8,585
Visits to expectant mothers—Primary visits .....	—
Secondary visits .....	—
Visits to cases of ophthalmia neonatorum—Primary visits .....	—

## HEALTH WORK.

Visits to cases of pneumonia—Primary visits .....	20
Visits to cases of puerperal fever and pyrexia—Primary visits.....	1
Visits to cases of scarlet fever .....	—
Visits to cases of measles .....	455
Visits to cases of whooping cough .....	102
Visits to mental defective cases.....	49
Special enquiries—Housing .....	177
Infant Deaths.....	61
Maternal Death .....	1
Others .....	157

## NURSING.

Visits to cases of pneumonia .....	—
Visits to cases of ophthalmia neonatorum .....	—
Visits to cases of puerperal fever and pyrexia .....	—
Visits to cases of discharging eyes .....	—

## CLINICS.

Sessions at—Maternity and Child Welfare Centres .....	467
Ante-Natal Clinic .....	—
Dental (Maternity and Child Welfare) .....	—

## SCHOOL WORK.

Visits to Schools with School Medical Officer.....	—
--	---

## HOME NURSING.

<i>No. of Home Nurses</i>	<i>No. of cases attended</i>	<i>No. of visits made to cases shown in Col 2</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)
5	528	12,569

## AGE GROUP DISTRIBUTION OF CASES.

0 — 5 .....	4
5 — 15 .....	11
15 — 45 .....	112
45 — 65 .....	143
65 — 75 .....	109
75 and up.....	149
	<hr/>
	528
	<hr/>

## CASES ANALYSED ACCORDING TO DISEASE OR CONDITION.

<i>Disease or Condition</i>	<i>No. of Cases</i>	<i>Disease or Condition</i>	<i>No. of Cases</i>
Abscess.....	12	<i>Brought forward</i>	242
Anæmia .....	1	Kidney Disease .....	9
Diseases of the Circulatory		Obstruction .....	2
System .....	3	Paralysis.....	2
Arthritis.....	7	Pneumonia .....	13
Bronchitis .....	20	Post-operation Dressing.....	15
Burns .....	7	Pre X-ray .....	62
Carcinoma .....	28	Rheumatism .....	6
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous		Senility .....	33
System .....	18	Septicæmia .....	7
Colostomy .....	7	Skin Diseases .....	17
Constipation .....	64	Stroke .....	30
Diabetes.....	7	Thread Worms.....	2
Female Diseases .....	29	Tuberculosis .....	30
Fractures .....	6	Ulcer (all parts) .....	7
Gangrene.....	3	Other Diseases or Conditions	51
Heart Disease .....	29		
Influenza .....	1		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
<i>Carried forward</i> ....	242	<i>Total</i> ....	528

## VACCINATION.

The table below indicates the number of vaccinations and re-vaccinations carried out during the year.

	Under 1	1	2 to 4	5 to 14	15 or over	Total
Vaccination .....	182	10	3	7	33	235
Re-vaccination.....	—	—	1	7	61	69
Totals.....	182	10	4	14	94	304

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The table below indicates the number of immunisations carried out during the year.

Age at 31/12/54 ..	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14	Total under 15
Born in year.....	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949-45	1944-40	
No. of children immunised .....	266	179	31	17	29	390	50	962

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Ambulance Service comprises 5 Ambulances and a Sitting-Case Car, and the depot is manned by a staff of 19 male and female drivers, and attendants.

In the table which follows, the number of cases dealt with during the year is divided into monthly totals, showing the types of case conveyed and the mileage covered. Out of Borough cases are shown separately.



1954	CASES WITHIN THE COUNTY BOROUGH											CASES OUTSIDE THE COUNTY BOROUGH		ALL CASES	
	Admit- tances to Hospital	Dis- charges from Hospital	Out Patients	Mater- nity Cases	X-ray Exam- inations	Street Accid- ents, etc.	Works Accid- ents, etc.	Others	Total Cases	Mileage	Cases	Mileage	Cases	Mileage	
January . . . . .	123	34	991	46	36	27	25	112	1,394	3,425	248	2,533	1,642	5,958	
February . . . . .	131	38	1,244	41	25	14	23	68	1,584	3,539	203	2,486	1,787	6,025	
March . . . . .	139	43	1,301	47	33	31	19	111	1,724	3,948	231	2,925	1,955	6,873	
April . . . . .	105	46	1,014	42	37	31	22	80	1,377	3,388	195	2,289	1,572	5,677	
May . . . . .	142	55	1,252	51	37	38	19	89	1,683	3,736	233	3,095	1,916	6,831	
June . . . . .	124	31	1,034	32	20	22	24	106	1,393	3,737	198	2,376	1,591	6,113	
July . . . . .	135	50	1,135	49	38	28	18	108	1,561	4,133	245	2,715	1,806	6,848	
August . . . . .	129	34	847	34	8	27	26	92	1,197	3,754	227	2,985	1,424	6,739	
September . . . . .	106	47	1,122	41	10	18	23	84	1,451	3,961	201	2,734	1,652	6,695	
October . . . . .	136	34	1,507	43	22	22	28	94	1,886	4,603	233	3,022	2,119	7,625	
November . . . . .	154	57	1,181	41	30	27	16	66	1,572	4,139	211	3,274	1,783	7,413	
December . . . . .	135	60	1,086	43	12	28	24	131	1,519	4,069	148	2,149	1,667	6,218	
Totals . . . . .	1,559	529	13,714	510	308	313	267	1,141	18,341	46,432	2,573	32,583	20,914	79,015	

## **DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.**

(By Miss A. STOTT).

During 1954 the number of Home Helps employed by this Authority has varied slightly from time to time, but has remained within the permitted number stipulated by the Council, i.e. the equivalent of 55 Helps working a 44-hour week.

The number of cases attended during the year showed an increase from 180 per week at the beginning of January to 205 per week at the end of December. This gradual increase has been a consistent factor since the service came into operation. Equally consistent has been the ratio between the number of aged and younger applicants, and, as in the past, approximately 75% of the cases attended have been people of ages ranging from 70 to over 90 years of age.

So much stress has been laid on the fact that provision of help to old people has relieved the pressure on hostel and hospital accommodation, it should not be forgotten that in enabling the mothers of young children to remain in their homes, the Home Help Service has been the one and only means of keeping a whole family intact.

In one case, daily assistance has been given for over six years. When application was first made for a Home Help, the mother could move around the home a little, but each year has meant a relentless increase in the degree of her disability. Her courage and morale have been beyond praise, but it is open to conjecture what her reaction would have been had it been necessary for her to spend these years in hospital, with her children's upbringing in the hands of strangers, and her husband in lodgings.

A Home Help has been attending another similar case since November of this year, but in this instance it is doubtful whether the mother will live until her children are of school age. In the meantime, however, the services of a Home Help could not be more needed or appreciated.

By increasing the number of cases attended by each Home Help, it has been possible throughout the year to assist cases varying from the chronic sick to the slightly disabled. This, however, will become more difficult, should the number of Home Helps continue to be limited to the present figure, while the demand for their services continues to increase.

---

## **MASS RADIOGRAPHY.**

The Middlesbrough Mass Radiography Unit of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Regional Hospital Board again visited the town at regular intervals during the year. Whilst the total number of examinees has remained steady over the last two years it shows a drastic decrease to the years when the Unit first visited the town i.e. 8,000 in 1951 and 10,000 in 1950. The number of cases referred to the Chest Clinic during 1954 showed a decrease on the figures for the previous year. In the following table the extent of the survey is shown and an analysis is given of the abnormalities discovered.



MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY 1954.

Examinee Group	Miniature Films Taken			Referred to Chest Clinic			Abnormalities Discovered					
							Pulmonary T.B.			Non-T.B.		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Doctors' Patients.....	156	147	303	19	9	28	2	3	5	17	3	20
T.B. Contacts.....	36	1	37	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Schoolchildren .....	446	723	1,169	8	8	16	3	1	4	2	3	5
Adults working with Children	24	43	67	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
General Public .....	1,715	2,015	3,730	45	54	99	24	23	47	25	21	46
Children under 5 years..	21	10	31	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ante-natal Patients.....	—	10	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
National Serv. Recruits	784	—	784	31	—	31	5	—	5	8	—	8
TOTALS ..	3,182	2,949	6,131	104	72	176	35	27	62	52	27	79

ANALYSIS OF ABNORMALITIES DISCOVERED

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS		NON-TUBERCULOSIS CONDITIONS	
Immediate treatment needed	13	Pleural Abnormalities	4
Close supervision needed	3	Bronchiectasis	21
Occasional supervision needed	7	Cardiac Abnormalities	12
Healed—no further action	39	Thoracic Neoplasm	10
		Miscellaneous	32



## TUBERCULOSIS REPORT.

(By Dr. J. B. ROBINSON).

As will be seen from the statistics, there has been little change in the incidence and mortality of tuberculosis compared with the last two years. During the year thirty-five families were re-housed on account of tuberculosis, and this reflects great credit on the Council and their sympathetic attitude towards our work. Less satisfactory is our inability to increase our staff of health visitors. This County Borough needs two whole-time tuberculosis health visitors. Until we have this adequate staff, our preventive measures and our after-care cannot be at their best, and it is to be hoped that a great effort will be made to repair this deficiency.

1. No. of T.B. cases on Register, 1st January.....	466
2. No. of new notifications.....	62
3. No. of transfers from other Clinics.....	5
4. No. of transfers out.....	8
5. No. of cases written off during the year as dead (all causes) ..	19
6. No. of cases written off during the year as recovered.....	17
7. No. of cases on Register, 31st December, 1954.....	489

## WELFARE SERVICE UNDER THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT.

The number of persons resident in accommodation provided under Part III of the National Assistance Act at the end of the year was as follows :

	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Children</i>
Howbeck Hostel.....	24	2	—
Hazelhurst Hostel.....	—	16	—
Briarfields Hostel.....	36	—	—
Dinsdale Lodge Hostel.....	13	18	—

By far the most important and far-reaching decision in connection with the problem of providing accommodation for old people was decided by the Council during the year when it was agreed to adopt in principle a scheme for the provision of flatlets for old people wherein they would be able, as far as possible, to live normal independent lives. A letter on the proposal to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government provided little in the way of methods adopted by other Authorities in any similar type of scheme and it would appear that West Hartlepool are going to be pioneers in this field.

The scheme envisages the provision of two blocks of flatlets with separate bathrooms and W.C.'s. Each flatlet will have an open fire and no central heating will be provided. There will be accommodation for a Warden or Caretaker in one block and a communal room in the other.

So far as the Welfare Committee is concerned, this is an excellent scheme which, when fully completed, will help to stem the flow of applicants for hostel accommodation. More important, it will help these old people to retain their individuality and enable them to live in a place of their own for as long as possible.

#### MALE ACCOMMODATION.

There was a sharp rise in the number of men in residential accommodation in the year. The corresponding figure for last year for Howbeck Hostel being exactly doubled. An approach from the Hospitals Management Committee on the question of places in the hostel was made during the year and it is evident that the accommodation position on the male side is going to get worse.

Several properties were viewed by members of the Committee during the year but none were found suitable and the possibility of a new hostel for male residents being built on the Owton Manor Estate was being examined at the end of the year.

#### FEMALE ACCOMMODATION.

Fortunately, the position with regard to female accommodation is more hopeful and the year under review opened with a definite possibility of acquiring another hostel when a special meeting of the Welfare Committee met in January to consider the taking-over of "Fairlawn," Grange Road, the former Blind Home. This was eventually decided upon and the Corporation made an offer to the Hartlepoons Workshops for the Blind of £3,036 for the purchase of the property and its furniture and fittings with a view to it being used as an old people's hostel. The figure finally agreed upon was £3,500.

"Fairlawn," when ready, will provide accommodation for 15 female residents.

#### HANDICAPPED PERSONS.

##### (a) BLIND PERSONS.

The position with regard to blind persons in the area on the 31st December, 1954 was as follows :—

(i) Blind—	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total Registration.....	82	72	154
New Registrations during 1954 (Form B.D.8 completed)	6	7	13
(ii) PARTIALLY SIGHTED—			
Total Registrations.....	4	7	11
New Registrations during 1954 (Form B.D.8 completed)	1	—	1



Further details in respect of 1954 registrations and of ophthalmia neonatorum notifications during the year are contained in tables A and B set out below :—

A. FOLLOW-UP OF REGISTERED BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS.

(i) No. of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Forms B.D. 8 recommends :—	CAUSE OF DISABILITY			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
(a) No treatment	4	—	—	6
(b) Treatment (medical surgical or optical)	—	—	—	1
(ii) No. of cases at (i)(b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment . . . . .	—	—	—	1 (optical)

B. OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

(i) Total No. of cases notified during the year . . . .	1
(ii) No of cases in which—	
(a) Vision lost . . . . .	—
(b) Vision impaired . . . . .	—
(c) Treatment continuing at end of year . . . .	—

(b) EPILEPTICS.

There has been little change in the incidence of epilepsy in West Hartlepool and it remains a comparatively small problem. There are 5 epileptic people in Part III Accommodation under the National Assistance Act who are being well cared for and who do not require any special attention. The resident in Meath Home for Epileptics for whom the Council were responsible died during the year.



## (c) SPASTICS.

A meeting called by the Middlesbrough Welfare Services Committee was held in October between representatives of the Council and those of Durham, North Riding of Yorkshire, the County Borough of Darlington, the Regional Hospital Board, the Tees-side Hospital Management Committee and the Middlesbrough Medical Committee to discuss the welfare of spastics in the Tees-side area. There were no formal resolutions passed at this meeting but the various aspects of the problem were fully investigated. The general impression was that the present facilities to be found in the area were adequate for the time being.

There has been no apparent change in the small incidence of cerebral palsy in the town during the year. There are no confirmed spastic cases among children below school age and 8 children between the ages of 5 and 15 are found to be suffering from the disease. Of these 7 attend the Education Authority's Open-Air School and the other child attends the Occupation Centre for Mental Defectives.

## (d) NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948—SECTION 47.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.

There were no cases arising under the above provisions during the year.

---

**MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.**

The service is carried out under the supervision of the Council's Health Committee which meets monthly. The Committee consists of 11 elected members and 2 co-opted members.

The staff employed in the Mental Health Service is as follows :—

Medical Officer of Health.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and One Assistant Medical Officer.

Two Administrative Officers who are also Duly-Authorised Officers.

One Male Clerk.

The visiting of female mental defectives under supervision is carried out by the Health Visiting staff.

**LUNACY AND MENTAL TREATMENT.**

The number of patients admitted to Mental Hospitals during the year was about the same as last year. There was, unfortunately, a slight decrease in those admitted as voluntary patients with a consequent slight increase in the number of certified patients.

#### WORK UNDERTAKEN IN THE COMMUNITY.

It is most unfortunate that this aspect of the Mental Health Service in West Hartlepool continues to receive the small attention the existing staff are able to give it as it is, in my opinion, the most important aspect of the work.

Durham County Council have still not been able to appoint a Psychiatric Social Worker to undertake this work for the County and to incorporate our own as agreed.

#### ACCOMMODATION FOR MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

Four vacancies were obtained during the year and in December, 1954 10 patients were awaiting accommodation. The obtaining of vacancies remains the biggest problem in the Service.

Supervision of mental defectives on licence is carried out in conjunction with the Welfare Officer of Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital.

#### OCCUPATION CENTRE FOR MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

The Occupation Centre in Brenda Road was officially opened on the 1st May, 1954 by Mr. D. T. Jones, Member of Parliament for the Hartlepoons. Work began in the Centre on the 10th May when the first pupils were admitted.

Only 18 attended for the first few weeks but by the end of the year there were 31 pupils on the register. Thus, a very large gap in the West Hartlepool Mental Health Service has now been filled. It is an excellent Centre of which the Council may be very proud.

The staff, composed of the Superintendent, Mrs. Dunning and her two Assistants are very happy in their bright surroundings and are aware of the very important work which they are doing.



## ANNUAL REPORT.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(BY MR. A. H. BASFORD, Chief Sanitary Inspector).

Achievements in some fields of environmental hygiene were so offset by frustration in others during 1954 as to make an assessment of the year's work more difficult than usual.

Record progress was made in slum clearance, a total of 315 houses being represented for demolition, 297 in clearance areas and 18 as individual dwellings. A measure of the intensity of this work may be given from a comparison with pre-war years when, with a larger staff, 651 houses were represented for demolition between 1931 and 1939. Priority was given deliberately to slum clearance so as to provide a continuous flow of work for the other departments concerned and, subsequently, a reservoir of condemned houses from which the Housing Officer could select tenants so as to make the best use of new housing accommodation as it became available.

More attention was paid to smoke abatement than in previous years and much unobtrusive routine work began to yield dividends in lessening emissions from certain industrial plants.

When the control of slaughtering and meat distribution was abandoned by the Ministry of Food in July, the management of the public abattoir reverted to the Corporation. Details of the work done and of the slaughtering record set up are given elsewhere in this report, but it is pleasant to be able to record here the smooth change-over and subsequent successful management of the abattoir. These were due to bold, far-sighted decisions taken by the Health Committee and to the sound business relationship established between local meat traders and the Fatstock Marketing Corporation in the early months of the year.

Less satisfying were the inroads made upon other branches of the department's work by the demands of slum clearance, smoke abatement and meat inspection. Food hygiene probably suffered most, partly because of the imminence of the new Amendment Act whose provisions were uncertain, and also because much attention had been paid to this subject in previous years.

The tangible result was a slump in the number of improvements effected to food premises, from 228 in 1953 to 25 in 1954. This does not indicate that there is little room for further improvement but rather that worthwhile progress can be assured only by regular and close attention by sanitary inspectors to all food businesses.



The routine work of nuisance abatement and of repairs to dwelling-houses also suffered from lack of attention. Urgent defects continued to be dealt with promptly and often were remedied in a matter of days. One cannot record with pride however that, on an average, four months elapsed before all other types of complaints were successfully dealt with or that one in six of all complainants were so dissatisfied with the progress made that they were moved to protest at the delay.

To what extent could this lack of balance in the working of the department have been avoided? The answer lies in an analysis of time lost through sickness and resignations. During the year no less than 317 man days were lost through sickness and 909 through resignations and subsequent vacancies in the establishment. Together, these compose 39.4% of the total working time of the department and, had they been usefully employed, would have enabled a much more satisfactory report to be written. The problem of staff shortages was tackled resolutely by the Committee and additional men were recruited so that by the end of the year there remained only one vacancy on the staff.

Before passing to the body of this report, mention must be made of an unfortunate incident, unique in the writer's experience, which occurred in April when, while holding a Magistrate's warrant, he was assaulted and refused permission to enter a house which he believed to be verminous. This incidence was in sharp contrast to the courteous and often friendly reception usually afforded to sanitary inspectors when carrying out even the most distasteful of their duties. When access was finally gained by force the publicity given to the conditions found in the house also served to spotlight a branch of the sanitary inspector's work which is carried on constantly, discreetly and in the strictest confidence: it is the cleansing and disinfection of dirty and verminous premises. This is time-consuming work which often takes many months to complete successfully and is fraught with setbacks.

The cause of a high proportion of the dirty premises which come to notice can be traced to the chronic ill-health of the housewife or to a serious emotional disturbance which she may have suffered. Neglect of housework stemming from these misfortunes has a cumulative effect until finally the house cannot be restored to a decent state without outside help. If the cause can be found and remedied, rehabilitation is reasonably certain, but some cases are particularly resistant and remain a constant source of worry to the sanitary inspector.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

1,627 complaints of all kinds were received during the year, including 262 concerning rats and mice.

The following visits were made :—

Dwelling houses (Public Health Act) .....	4,226
„ (Housing Act) .....	1,485
Sub-let houses .....	28
Overcrowded houses .....	30
Common lodging houses .....	18
Licensed tents and caravans .....	16
Unlicensed tents and caravans .....	277
Verminous premises .....	291
Ditches, etc. ....	10
Factories .....	106
Boilerhouses .....	28
Deposit Gauges .....	71
Offensive trades .....	9
Swimming baths .....	16
Schools .....	7
Places of public entertainment .....	23
Public conveniences .....	6
Pet shops .....	11
Shops .....	586

# SANITARY DEFECTS DISCOVERED AND DEALT WITH BY THE SERVICE OF INFORMAL OR STATUTORY NOTICES.

## HOUSES.

### REPAIRS To :—

Roofs.....	251
Spouts and fallpipes.....	314
External walls and chimneys.....	112
Internal wall and ceiling plaster.....	95
Damp walls.....	32
Doors.....	117
Windows.....	113
Floors.....	77
Subfloor ventilation.....	7
Staircases.....	5
Fireplaces and flues.....	21
Kitchen ranges.....	42
Setpots.....	23
Sinks.....	24
Rainwater pumps and wells.....	48
Water pipes and taps.....	23
Hot water cisterns.....	2

### Water closets—

Basins.....	50
Cisterns.....	85
Seats.....	14
Water supply pipes.....	22
Stopped drains and waterclosets.....	96
Other defective drains.....	7
Yard paving.....	10

### PROVISION OF :—

Internal sink.....	1
Circular dustbins.....	95
Fixed ashclosets abolished.....	13
Privy midden abolished.....	1
Offensive accumulation removed.....	1

### CLEANSING OF :—

Rooms.....	5
Yard and Air Raid Shelter.....	1

---



---

1,707



## HOUSING.

The number of inhabited houses in the Borough at the end of 1954 was 21,832, with a population of 72,500. This gives a figure of 3.32 persons per house.

During 1954, 52 houses were built by private enterprise and 316 houses and 252 flats were built by the Corporation.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :	
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).....	870
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose.....	5,711
(2) (a) No. of dwelling houses(included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 .....	315
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose.....	921
(3) No. of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.....	315
(4) No. of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .....	555
2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—	
No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.....	254
3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—	
A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
(1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .....	10
(2) No. of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
(a) By owners .....	20
(b) By local authority in default of owners .....	5
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .....	45
(2) No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners .....	52
(b) By local authority in default of owners .....	Nil

C.	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
(1)	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition orders were made .....	19
(2)	No. of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....	21
D.	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
(1)	No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .....	Nil
(2)	No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.....	Nil
E.	Proceedings under Section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953—	
(1)	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made .....	3
(2)	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined .....	1
4.	HOUSING ACT, 1936, PART IV, OVERCROWDING :—	
(a)	(i) No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	447
	(ii) No. of families dwelling therein .....	453
	(iii) No. of persons dwelling therein .....	2,958
(b)	No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	69
(c)	(i) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	87
	(ii) No. of persons concerned in such cases .....	671
(d)	Cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.....	Nil

### SLUM CLEARANCE.

Because of the time taken up by legal and administrative steps in the demolition of slums under Parts II and III of the Housing Act, 1936, it was necessary to press forward with the representation of houses well in advance of the programme approved in principle by the Council in October, 1953. Thus during 1954, 13 clearance areas comprising 297 houses were declared : compulsory purchase orders were made in all instances except for one area of 19 houses where a clearance order was made.



At the same time 18 individual dwellings were represented as unfit for human habitation. Thus, a total of 315 dwellings was represented in the year, a figure not previously approached in the history of the Council.

Details of the properties affected are given below :—

#### CENTRAL AREA PROGRAMME.

##### (i) CLEARANCE AREAS REPRESENTED—

<i>Date</i>	<i>Sector</i> (See report for 1953)	<i>No. of clearance</i> <i>areas</i>	<i>No. of</i> <i>dwellings</i>
4/2/54	3A	5	97
1/7/54	3B	4	91
4/11/54	5A (Part)	1	50
4/11/54	4B (Part)	1	36

##### (ii) PUBLIC INQUIRIES HELD—

<i>Date</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>No. of clearance</i> <i>areas</i>	<i>No. of</i> <i>dwellings</i>
14/9/54	3A	5	97

##### (iii) COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDERS CONFIRMED BY MINISTER—

<i>Date</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>No. of clearance</i> <i>areas</i>	<i>No. of</i> <i>dwellings</i>
29/3/54	2	1	59

**N.B.**—A grant under section 42 of the Housing Act, 1936 was made to the owner/occupier of one dwelling.

#### OTHER AREAS.

There are many houses in the County Borough outside the central area which are quite as bad as those within it and a balance must therefore be held between clearance of the central area and of other parts of the town. In January therefore, the Housing Committee decided to declare clearance areas outside the central area at the rate of about 30 houses per year. This was to ensure that slum clearance proceed throughout the County Borough uniformly. Two clearance areas, comprising 23 such houses, were declared by the Council during the year. Details of the properties affected are given below :—

##### (i) CLEARANCE AREAS REPRESENTED—

<i>Date</i>	<i>No. of clearance</i> <i>areas</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>No. of</i> <i>dwellings</i>
4/3/54	1	Ashburn Street, Seaton Carew.	4
2/12/54	1	Alice Street —16 Sarah Street— 3 }	19



(ii) NO PUBLIC INQUIRIES WERE HELD DURING THE YEAR.

(iii) ORDERS CONFIRMED BY MINISTER—

<i>Date</i>	<i>No. of clearance areas</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>
12/8/54	1	Ashburn Street, Seaton Carew.	4

N.B.—This compulsory purchase order was unopposed.

## FOOD HYGIENE.

### TYPES OF FOOD PREMISES IN THE COUNTY BOROUGH.

Bakehouses .....	35	Greengrocers' shops .....	62
Bakers' shops .....	48	Grocers' shops .....	83
Butchers' shops .....	78	Licensed premises .....	108
Cafes .....	26	Snack Bars .....	27
Chemists' shops .....	26	Sweet shops .....	82
Dairies and milk shops .....	13	Wholesale grocers .....	13
Wet and dry fish shops .....	22	Food factories .....	19
Fried fish shops .....	52	School canteens and dining centres .....	24
General shops .....	179	Factory canteens .....	5

N.B.—Where two or more types of trade are carried on in the same building, only those which form a substantial part of the whole business have been included in the above table.

### FOOD PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 14 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

<i>Type of premises</i>	<i>Number registered</i>
Ice cream (manufacture, storage and sale) .....	214
Sausages and preserved meats (manufacture) .....	94
Preserved fish (manufacture) .....	60

### DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

<i>Type of premises</i>	<i>Number</i>
Dairies .....	13
Dairies pasteurising milk .....	1
Milkshops selling pasteurised milk .....	52
Milkshops selling sterilised milk .....	157
Milkshops selling tuberculin-tested milk .....	12

The routine inspection of food premises was pressed on throughout the year and a total of 1,443 visits made. An analysis of these visits is given overleaf.

<i>Type of premises</i>	<i>No. of visits</i>
Dairies.....	68
Milk Shops .....	45
Bakehouses.....	19
Fried fish shops.....	15
Ice cream premises .....	83
Other registered premises ...	31
Cafes .....	18
School meals kitchens .....	5
Licensed premises.....	25
Other food shops.....	477
Public abattoir .....	639

As a result of informal action by sanitary inspectors, 25 improvements were effected to food premises. This figure compares unfavourably with the 228 improvements carried out to food premises during 1953. The cause of such a spectacular reduction is referred to in the introduction to this report.

<i>Type of improvement to food premises</i>	<i>No. of instances</i>
Food rooms cleansed or re-decorated .....	4
Food rooms repaired .....	1
Hot water supply provided.....	8
Sink provided .....	2
Soap and towels provided .....	2
Prevention of contamination of food.....	3
Provision of additional sanitary accommodation in licensed premises.....	1
Repairs to sanitary accommodation in licensed premises	4
	—
	25
	==

#### LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

A farmer was prosecuted under Section 3 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938 for selling milk which contained added water. The magistrates dismissed the case but, on case stated to the Divisional Court, they were directed to convict. The farmer was then fined £1 and ordered to pay the costs of the appeal.

After a complaint from factory workers that meat pies bought from their canteen were unfit to eat, the manufacturer of the pies was prosecuted under Section 9 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938 and was fined £2.

A warning letter was sent out to a manufacturer of meat pies after one of four pies sold to a customer at a public house was found to be mouldy.



## DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD.

The arrangements for the disposal of condemned food were dealt with at length in the report for 1953 and remain unchanged except for meat condemned at the public abattoir.

In February the Health Committee considered their powers to dispose of unsound meat belonging to the Ministry of Food so as to ensure that it was not re-sold in its raw state. Accordingly they entered into a long-term contract with a Tyneside firm to whom unsound meat was sold for conversion into fertiliser and animal foodstuff by concentration under pressure. This arrangement was continued successfully both during the period of control of meat distribution and when the Council resumed control of the public abattoir.

## PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

The Council's abattoir in Barnard Street comprises a main slaughtering hall, a cooling room, a separate pig slaughterhouse and lairage for all types of food animals. There are within the precincts of the slaughterhouse a tripery and gut-scraping factory which are let off to private firms. Before the war the abattoir was controlled by the Council and facilities were given for the slaughter of food animals to any person upon payment of the appropriate charges. There were no private slaughterhouses in the County Borough. In January, 1940, the Ministry of Food took over the exclusive use of the premises as part of their scheme for the control of slaughtering and distribution of meat ; during the following 15 years the abattoir provided slaughtering facilities for the population of West Hartlepool and the surrounding districts.

When it became known that the Government intended to bring to an end the meat and livestock control scheme under which the Ministry of Food had occupied the abattoir, the Health Committee arranged a meeting with representatives of the Hartlepoons Meat Traders Association Ltd., the Hartlepoons Co-operative Society Ltd., and the National Farmers Union to discuss the future management of the abattoir.

The Health Committee decided that the facilities provided at the abattoir were adequate to meet the demand for slaughterhouse accommodation for the County Borough and that the premises should be directly managed by the Council. They approved a scale of charges for the use of the abattoir based on the pre-war kill and the estimated management expenses.



Office facilities were provided for the Hartlepoons Meat Traders Association Ltd., who became the main slaughtering contractors, for the newly-formed Fatstock Marketing Corporation, set up under the aegis of the National Farmers Union to handle the producers' interests, and for the meat graders employed by the Ministry of Food. The arrangement worked admirably and the number of animals killed reached an all-time record in the history of the abattoir when 35,484 animals were dealt with by the end of the year. The previous highest total had been 28,561 animals which were killed in 1933. Further details are provided in Appendix 19. By the end of the year 43 men were fully employed at the abattoir in the slaughter of animals and the handling of by-products.

The pig slaughterhouse which had lain derelict for many years was reconditioned and brought into use on the 8th October. The latest type of electrolethaller stunning apparatus was installed and the lighting of the dressing room improved. The value of the separate pig slaughterhouse was demonstrated particularly during the week preceding Christmas when 1,929 pigs were slaughtered.

### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 1953.

From the 1st October, it became compulsory for milk bottles to be provided with caps or covers overlapping their lips. This new legal requirement accords with the practice which has obtained in the County Borough for the past five years.

### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

#### 1. RAW MILK

No. of samples taken for examination			Source of Supply	Result	Action taken
For presence of Tubercle bacilli	For Methylene Blue Reduction Test	For presence of Brucellus abortus			
8 48	— —	— —	Local Supply Supply from outside borough	8 Negative 44 Negative 4 Positive	— — Responsible Authority notified. Animals slaughtered.
—	11	—	Supply from outside borough	8 Satis'y. 3 Unsat'y.	— Responsible Authority notified.
— —	— —	5 32	Local Supply Supply from outside borough	5 Negative 32 Negative	— —

## 2. PASTEURISED MILK

No. of samples taken for examination		Source of Supply	Result	Action taken
Methylene Blue Reduction Test	For Phosphatase Test			
18 61	18 61	Local Supply Supply from outside borough	18 Satisfactory 60 Satisfactory 1 Unsatisfactory	— — Responsible Authority notified.

N.B.— Pasteurised milk satisfies the methylene blue reduction test if it fails to decolourise methylene blue in 30 minutes.

## 3. STERILISED MILK

No. of samples submitted for Turbidity Test	Source of Supply	Result	Action taken
16	Supply from outside borough	16 Satisfactory	—

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF ICE-CREAM, 1954.

TOTAL SAMPLES	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4
38 100%	13 34.2%	7 18.4%	11 29.0%	7 18.4%

Fewer ice-cream samples were taken during the year. Sampling was mainly restricted to local manufacturers because an increasing amount of the ice-cream sold in the town was of proprietary brands distributed and sampled nationally.

Six process samples of ice-cream were taken during manufacture at one premises and the results indicated that inadequate sterilization of the cooler was causing low-grade samples of the retail product.

One manufacturer in the town enlarged and reorganised his factory.

Thirteen local manufacturers were in business throughout the summer.



## WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is provided by the Hartlepoons Water Company and is adequate for the needs of the town. It is obtained from 18 boreholes in the County Borough and one in the area of Stockton Rural District but a new borehole was sunk at Dalton Piercy during the year and the work of laying pipes from Dalton Piercy to West Hartlepool was put in hand so that eventually West Hartlepool would be supplied to a great extent from the boreholes at Dalton Piercy and Naisberry. After chlorination the water is pumped to two covered tanks from which it flows to the consumers' premises.

The reduced hardness of the water supply from the Naisberry reservoir was maintained and by the end of the year the whole of Owton Manor Estate and part of the Park area were supplied from this borehole. Part of the Naisberry water was led down into the Cleveland Road water tower and so the hardness of this water too was somewhat reduced. When the borehole at Dalton Piercy is brought into use a still softer supply may be expected.

Typical chemical analyses of the town's water supply are given below for comparison :—

	<i>Naisberry Reservoir</i> <i>Parts per 100,000</i>	<i>Cleveland Reservoir</i> <i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Chlorine as Chlorides .....	3.2500	12.6000
Nitrogen as Nitrates.....	0.1636	0.1185
Ammonia .....	0.0012	0.0115
Albuminoid ammonia.....	0.0036	0.0034
Oxygen Absorption.....	0.0280	0.0360
Injurious Metals .....	None	None
Total Solid Matter dried at 100° C...	40.0000	84.0000
pH value of Sample .....	7.5	7.5
Temporary Hardness .....	19.6 degrees	24.2 degrees
Permanent Hardness .....	3.0 „	17.8 „
Colour of Sample on Hazen Scale ...	2	2
Appearance of Sample in 2-ft. tube..	Not quite bright	Not quite bright
Odour when heated to 50° C. ....	None	None

The purity of the supply was maintained at a very high level throughout the year and bacteriological examination was normally reported upon as follows :—

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Number of colonies on Nutrient Agar @ 37° C. after 72 hours .....	0 per ml.
Number of colonies on Nutrient Agar @ 20-22° C. after 72 hours .....	0 per ml.
Presumptive B. Coli Test @ 37°C. after 72 hours.....	Negative in 100 ml.
Clostridium Welchii Test @ 45° C. in 40 ml.....	Negative



## INFECTIOUS DISEASE (INCLUDING FOOD POISONING.)

315 visits were made by sanitary inspectors to homes where notifiable diseases occurred or where contacts of patients were under surveillance. This was an increase of more than 100% over the previous year. The illnesses concerned were dysentery, food poisoning, meningococcal infections, poliomyelitis, scarlet fever and smallpox.

Three cases of food poisoning were notified. In an outbreak involving two persons the cause was undiscovered but the agent, salmonella typhimurium, was isolated. The third case was of an individual from whom salmonella typhimurium was isolated but again the cause was undiscovered.

## DISEASES OF ANIMALS.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

The value of close liaison with the other officials concerned with animal health was demonstrated several times during the year. Samples of milk were taken by sanitary inspectors for biological examination and, of these, three were found to contain tubercle bacilli. The farms from which the milk was obtained were reported to the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries, whose Divisional Veterinary Inspector traced the cows producing the tubercular milk and ordered their slaughter.

On another occasion, a calf, slaughtered at the public abattoir, was found to be infected with congenital tuberculosis. With the help of the auctioneers and the Divisional Veterinary Inspector, the calf's dam was traced and slaughtered.

During the year 17 animals were slaughtered at the public abattoir under the Tuberculosis (Slaughter of Reactors) Order, 1950.

### ANTHRAX.

One Sunday in June a heifer, which had died from anthrax on a farm outside the County Borough, was mistakenly brought into the town for knacker. Fortunately the knacker recognised the condition but not before the animal had been partially eviscerated and much blood had been lost. In these unusual circumstances the carcass was dismembered and the flesh, organs and bones were boiled for one hour. The hide and hooves were burned. Early on the following morning the boiled remains of the carcass were burned at the Council's destructor.

## PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS OR REGULATIONS.

	<i>Number</i>
Rag and Bone Dealers .....	3
Gut Scrapers .....	2
Tripe Boilers .....	2
Bone Boiler .....	1
Fat Renderer .....	1
Common Lodging Houses .....	3
Registered Houses-let-in-lodgings .....	7
Slaughter House .....	1

### RAG AND BONE DEALERS.

In one premises a separate room for the sorting of rags was provided. In the other premises, cleansing and redecoration were carried out. 17 visits were made to these premises.

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

SITUATION	Registered No. of Lodgers	No. of Rooms
18 Rokeby Street .....	13	6
2 Edward Street .....	15	4
26 George Street .....	11	4
TOTALS.....	39	14

The common lodging house at 2 Edward Street was closed late in May, 1954, after the registered keeper and the deputy had been rehoused by the Corporation. All the lodgers, except two who went to Sunderland, found individual lodgings in private houses in the central area of the town.

The common lodging house at 26 George Street was represented for demolition on the grounds that it was unfit for human habitation, but it was still being operated at the end of the year.

### SHOPS ACT, 1950.

251 visits were made to shops and, although in most cases the sanitary and other arrangements were satisfactory, the following improvements were made :—

Provision of additional sanitary accommodation ....	1
Repairs to sanitary accommodation .....	3

No complaints were received regarding heating or ventilation of shops but in one instance the ventilation was improved after the service of an informal notice.



## RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

There were four premises registered for upholstering under Section 2 of the Act and no additional registrations were made during the year. Seven visits were made to these premises and three samples were taken which proved satisfactory.

## PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Four shops were licensed for a further period of one year and a good standard was maintained in all premises. No contraventions of the Council's licensing conditions were detected in 11 visits to the shops.

## AIR POLLUTION.

The arrangements made for systematic measurement of air pollution, which were described in the report for 1953, continued unchanged during 1954 and the Council's active participation in the affairs of the Tees-side Smoke Abatement Advisory Committee was maintained.

Several measures were taken to reduce smoke nuisances in the town and, although some of them were incidental to improved industrial efficiency, the results were no less acceptable. One persistent smoke nuisance, caused by over-loading of boilers, was referred to the National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service.

The Northern Gas Board discontinued gas-making in May at their premises in Middleton Road and at another plant improved coke ovens were installed.

The nuisance arising from the engine sheds of British Railways in Mainsforth Terrace was brought to the notice of the British Transport Commission with the request that early steps should be taken to remedy the conditions. It was contemplated that modifications could be made to the roofs of the engine sheds so as to ensure that smoke would be emitted to the atmosphere at a higher level. This problem was also discussed at the annual conference of the National Smoke Abatement Society in September, but no progress had been made by the end of the year.

The air pollution recorded monthly at each of the Council's deposit gauges is given overleaf, together with a table of the year's wind records.



## GRAY ART GALLERY.

MONTH	RAINFALL		DEPOSITS—Solids—Tons per Sq. Mile		
	Inches	P. H. Val.	Suspended	Dissolved	Total
January.....	2.38	5.8	11.94	19.18	31.12
February.....	1.55	5.0	12.44	9.00	21.44
March .....	1.37	5.7	14.74	8.80	23.54
April .....	0.19	6.5	7.60	5.34	12.94
May .....	1.89	6.4	15.78	9.10	24.88
June.....	2.00	5.7	9.74	9.66	19.40
July.....	1.57	6.4	16.51	8.62	25.13
August.....	4.30	5.6	19.80	12.46	32.26
September.....	1.81	5.4	12.84	7.35	20.19
October.....	3.52	5.3	9.10	6.80	15.90
November.....	3.02	5.7	12.21	6.80	19.01
December .....	2.0	5.6	14.94	15.37	30.31

## GOLDEN FLATTS SCHOOL.

MONTH	RAINFALL		DEPOSITS—Solids—Tons per Sq. Mile		
	Inches	P. H. Val.	Suspended	Dissolved	Total
January.....	2.40	6.1	11.80	31.65	43.45
February.....	1.44	5.2	3.37	10.04	13.41
March .....	1.24	5.4	11.80	12.80	24.60
April .....	0.02	6.8	11.64	7.37	19.01
May .....	1.77	6.2	18.91	14.07	32.98
June.....	1.71	6.4	15.77	9.90	25.67
July.....	1.14	6.5	8.80	8.47	17.27
August.....	4.02	5.9	17.17	19.43	36.60
September.....	1.43	6.1	9.20	7.36	16.56
October.. ..	3.51	5.8	7.54	6.78	14.32
November.....	2.82	5.8	12.70	10.00	22.70
December .....	Gauge Broken—No Readings				

## GRANTULLY MATERNITY HOME.

MONTH	RAINFALL		DEPOSITS—Solids—Tons per Sq. Mile		
	Inches	P. H. Val.	Suspended	Dissolved	Total
January.....	2.41	5.1	9.05	19.00	28.05
February .....	1.55	5.0	13.26	9.65	22.91
March .....	1.24	5.8	15.95	9.40	25.35
April .....	0.03	6.5	7.07	3.32	10.39
May .....	1.32	6.3	13.10	8.70	21.80
June .....	1.68	5.9	10.30	7.14	17.44
July .....	1.52	6.2	8.12	7.00	15.12
August .....	3.50	5.8	28.05	11.45	39.50
September.....	1.62	6.0	9.00	7.98	16.98
October .....	3.62	5.7	7.27	8.80	16.07
November .....	2.94	5.2	11.42	7.71	19.13
December .....	2.05	5.0	7.24	14.80	22.04

## DYKE HOUSE SCHOOL.

MONTH	RAINFALL		DEPOSITS—Solids—Tons per Sq. Mile		
	Inches	P. H. Val.	Suspended	Dissolved	Total
January.....	2.04	6.1	9.76	28.57	38.33
February .....	1.43	5.0	8.14	13.56	21.70
March .....	1.04	6.0	10.57	12.50	23.07
April .....	0.09	6.8	7.60	6.90	14.50
May .....	1.77	6.9	15.57	10.98	26.55
June .....	1.77	6.4	8.24	8.64	16.88
July .....	1.39	6.4	11.08	7.24	18.32
August.....	3.35	5.7	9.76	19.64	29.40
September.....	1.48	5.9	8.60	6.25	14.85
October .....	3.46	5.6	5.95	6.77	12.72
November .....	2.71	5.4	8.34	9.73	18.07
December .....	1.92	5.2	7.40	19.45	26.85

## WIND RECORD (in hours per month).

MONTH	DIRECTION OF WIND									
	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm	No record
January . . . .	33.5	73.0	53.5	101.5	111.0	189.5	74.0	104.0	4.0	—
February . .	44.0	54.5	34.0	62.5	94.0	237.0	14.0	106.0	15.0	11.0
March . . . . .	49.0	190.0	—	74.5	42.0	283.0	9.0	96.5	—	—
April . . . . .	104.5	183.5	—	23.0	7.5	231.0	37.5	133.0	—	—
May . . . . .	244.5	130.0	—	137.0	36.0	80.5	15.5	100.5	—	—
June . . . . .	107.5	135.0	—	31.0	66.5	316.5	22.0	37.5	—	4.0
July . . . . .	58.5	33.0	—	23.0	87.5	351.0	67.0	69.0	3.0	52.0
August . . . .	122.5	62.5	7.5	44.5	92.5	290.0	25.0	98.5	—	1.0
September . .	—	7.0	—	23.5	178.0	405.5	84.5	21.5	—	—
October . . . .	17.5	55.5	5.0	18.0	197.5	356.0	40.0	54.5	—	—
November . .	20.0	44.0	1.0	95.5	222.5	233.0	45.0	59.0	—	—
December . . .	—	0.5	11.0	67.0	128.0	382.0	89.5	62.0	—	4.0



## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Summary of Surface Infestations, 1st April, 1954, to 31st March, 1955.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	NON-AGRICULTURAL				(5) Agric- cultural
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (incl. Coun- cil Houses)	(3) All other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1), (2) & (3)	
I. No. of properties in Local Authority's District.....	96	21,457	2,629	24,182	53
II. No. of properties inspected as a result of :					
(a) Notification... ..	8	189	55	252	Nil
(b) Survey under the Act.....	15	426	29	470	1
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose) .....	Nil	11	2	13	Nil
III. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections	94	1,939	291	2,324	1
IV. No. of properties inspected (in Sec. II) which were found to be infested by :					
(a) Rats					
Major.....	1	Nil	2	3	Nil
Minor.....	8	129	31	168	Nil
(b) Mice					
Major.....	2	Nil	34	36	Nil
Minor.....	Nil	152	Nil	152	Nil
V. No. of infested properties (in Sec. IV) treated by the L.A. ....	11	274	64	349	Nil
VI. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments..	11	283	77	371	Nil
VII. No. of notices served under Sec. IV of the Act :					
(a) Treatment .....	Nil	Nil	2	2	Nil
(b) Structural Work (i.e. Proofing) .....	Nil	Nil	2	2	Nil
VIII. No. of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sec. IV of the Act .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
IX. Legal Proceedings .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
X. No. of "Block" control schemes carried out.....	Nil	84	8	92	Nil

## APPENDIX 1. BIRTHS.

	West H'pool.	WARDS								Transfers IN OUT	
		North	West	Park	S.W.	Cent'l	N.E.	Seaton	South		
No. of births	1,344	84	96	92	246	268	306	135	169	29	81
Percentage of total births	—	6.3	7.1	6.8	18.3	20.0	22.8	10.0	12.5	2.2	6.0

## BIRTH RATES.

YEAR	WEST HARTLEPOOL		ENGLAND & WALES BIRTH RATE
	No. of Births	Birth Rate	
1954	1,344	18.54	15.2

## NATURAL INCREASE OF POPULATION.

The natural increase of population was 520.

Rate of natural increase per 1,000 population, 7.17.





## APPENDIX 2. THE DEATHS AS THEY OCCURRED IN THE WARDS.

	Total Deaths	WARDS								Transferable Deaths
		North	West	Park	S.-West	Central	N.-East	Seaton	South	
Tuberculosis (respiratory) . . . . .	12	1	—	2	—	3	2	2	2	—
Other Tuberculosis Diseases . . . . .	4	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—
Syphilitic Diseases . . . . .	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—
Meningococcal Infections . . . . .	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases . . . . .	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Cancer . . . . .	130	12	18	9	11	19	12	17	17	15
Leukæmia . . . . .	6	1	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	1
Diabetes . . . . .	4	—	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System . . . . .	92	10	17	12	8	13	11	9	6	6
Heart Disease . . . . .	234	35	29	30	32	29	23	26	19	11
Other Circulatory Diseases . . . . .	43	4	5	8	7	4	3	3	5	4
Influenza . . . . .	5	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
Pneumonia . . . . .	47	5	3	4	3	14	7	5	4	2
Bronchitis . . . . .	67	5	9	7	4	18	9	7	7	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System . . . . .	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum . . . . .	10	2	3	—	1	1	—	—	1	2
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhœa . . . . .	4	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis . . . . .	14	1	1	2	1	2	3	—	—	4
Hyperplasia of Prostate . . . . .	9	1	1	1	2	—	1	1	1	1
Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion . . . . .	3	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations . . . . .	8	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	—	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases . . . . .	79	5	7	9	5	10	13	7	7	16
Motor Vehicle Accidents . . . . .	15	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	11
All other accidents . . . . .	17	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	2	12
Suicide . . . . .	10	1	1	1	2	1	1	—	—	3
TOTAL DEATHS . . . . .	824	86	101	86	81	124	92	84	76	94



APPENDIX 3. TABLE SHOWING CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Total Deaths	AGE GROUPS									Deaths in Institutions
		Under 1	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65-75	75 up	
Tuberculosis (respiratory) .....	12	—	—	—	—	1	5	6	—	—	6
Other Tuberculosis Diseases .....	4	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	4
Syphilitic Diseases .....	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1
Meningococcal Infections .....	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases .....	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Cancer .....	130	—	—	—	1	—	9	45	39	36	51
Leukæmia .....	6	—	—	1	1	2	1	1	—	—	1
Diabetes .....	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System .....	92	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	35	40	29
Heart Disease .....	234	—	—	—	—	1	5	53	80	95	57
Other Circulatory Diseases .....	43	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	9	26	19
Influenza .....	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	3
Pneumonia .....	47	16	1	—	—	—	2	4	6	18	26
Bronchitis .....	67	2	—	1	—	—	2	17	13	32	19
Other Diseases of Respiratory System .....	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	2	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum .....	10	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	4	1	8
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhœa .....	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis .....	14	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	6	3	7
Hyperplasia of Prostate .....	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	5	8
Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion .....	3	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	2
Congenital Malformations .....	8	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	6
Other defined and ill-defined diseases .....	79	34	—	—	1	3	2	14	16	9	50
Motor Vehicle accidents .....	15	—	—	2	1	1	6	1	3	1	13
All other accidents .....	17	—	—	—	—	3	4	3	3	4	7
Suicide .....	10	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	2	3	2
TOTAL DEATHS .....	824	62	1	5	4	14	47	186	223	282	326





APPENDIX 4. WEEKLY RETURN OF DEATHS FROM CHEST DISEASES.

DISEASE	2nd Jan.	9th Jan.	16th Jan.	23rd Jan.	30th Jan.	6th Feb.	13th Feb.	20th Feb.	27th Feb.	6th Mar.	13th Mar.	20th Mar.	27th Mar.	3rd Apr.	10th Apr.	17th Apr.	24th Apr.	1st May	8th May	15th May	22nd May
Influenza .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phthisis .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis .....	—	4	3	—	3	2	2	1	—	—	—	3	—	4	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia.....	1	—	1	2	1	2	—	2	—	1	2	1	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Heart Disease .....	—	7	4	4	7	8	9	6	5	6	5	3	5	3	3	7	7	4	2	5	3
Other Respiratory Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1
TOTALS.....	1	12	8	6	11	12	12	9	7	7	7	9	7	9	5	8	8	4	4	6	6

DISEASE	29th May	5th June	12th June	19th June	26th June	3rd July	10th July	17th July	24th July	31st July	7th Aug.	14th Aug.	21st Aug.	28th Aug.	4th Sept.	11th Sept.	18th Sept.	25th Sept.	2nd Oct.	9th Oct.	16th Oct.
Influenza .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phthisis .....	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis .....	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	3	—	—	2	—	—	1	4	4	1	2	—
Pneumonia.....	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	3	—	1	—	—	2	—	2	—
Heart Disease .....	7	4	5	2	2	1	3	3	3	4	—	5	4	2	1	4	5	3	5	9	2
Other Respiratory Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS.....	8	6	6	3	4	1	3	4	5	7	1	6	9	3	2	5	10	9	6	13	2

DISEASE	23rd Oct	30th Oct	6th Nov.	13th Nov.	20th Nov.	27th Nov.	4th Dec.	11th Dec.	18th Dec.	25th Dec.	31st Dec.	Total
Influenza.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	5
Phthisis.....	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	12
Bronchitis.....	—	1	1	1	—	1	4	5	2	2	2	67
Pneumonia.....	—	2	—	2	—	—	3	2	2	1	4	47
Heart Disease.....	2	4	2	5	7	6	6	5	10	5	5	234
Other Respiratory Disease .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
TOTALS.....	2	8	3	8	7	8	14	14	16	8	11	370







## APPENDIX 5. DEATHS.

	West Hartle- pool	WARDS								Trans- ferable Deaths
		N.	W.	P.	S.W.	C.	N.E.	S'ton	S.	
No. of deaths	824	86	101	86	81	124	92	84	76	94
Percentage of Total Deaths		10.4	12.3	10.4	9.8	15.1	11.2	10.2	9.2	11.4

## APPENDIX 6. TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.

DEATHS OCCURRING IN :—	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Hartlepoons Hospital, Hartlepool . . . . .	32	13	45
Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle upon Tyne	2	1	3
Newcastle General Hospital, N'castle upon Tyne.	6	3	9
Sedgefield General Hospital . . . . .	4	1	5
Other Hospitals . . . . .	8	6	14
Other Areas . . . . .	12	6	18
TOTALS . . . . .	64	30	94

## APPENDIX 7. DEATH RATES.

YEAR	WEST HARTLEPOOL		ENGLAND AND WALES
	No. of Deaths	Death Rate	
1954	824	11.36	11.3

## APPENDIX 8. CANCER DEATHS.

Year	No. of Cancer Deaths	Males	Females	Death Rate	Deaths from all causes	Percentage of total deaths
1954	130	69	61	1.79	824	15.77

## APPENDIX 9.

## CANCER DEATHS — PARTS OF BODY AFFECTED.

PARTS AFFECTED	Age Sex	Under 35		35 to 45		45 to 55		55 to 65		65 to 75		Over 75		Total	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Peritoneum, Intestine Rectum.....		1	1	2	—	—	—	4	3	7	6	4	9	18	19
Stomach, .....		—	—	1	—	1	1	3	2	4	2	1	5	10	10
Genito-Urinary Organs ..		—	—	—	2	—	4	2	3	4	1	6	2	12	12
Breast.....		—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	4	—	3	—	11
Other Glands.....		—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Respiratory System.....		1	—	—	—	5	—	5	2	7	1	2	—	20	3
Mouth.....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	4	—
Other Parts.....		1	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	1	—	—	1	4	5
TOTALS.....		3	1	3	3	6	6	17	16	24	15	16	20	69	61

The deaths were ascribed to—

No. of deaths

Carcinoma ..... 112

Sarcoma ..... 1

Epithelioma ..... 2

Cancer (no classification)..... 15

---

130

---



## APPENDIX 10. INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE.

YEAR	WEST HARTLEPOOL			ENGLAND & WALES Rate
	Births	Deaths	Rate	
1954	1344	62	46	25.5

## APPENDIX 11.

## INFANT MORTALITY IN THE WARDS.

CAUSE OF DEATH	North	West	Park	South West	Cent'l	North East	Seaton	South	Trans- ferable	Total
Bronchitis .....	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia.....	1	2	—	—	6	4	1	2	—	16
Congestion of the Lungs....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Tuberculosis (non-respiratory)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Gastritis .....	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Enteritis.....	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Premature Birth.....	—	—	1	1	6	7	2	1	6	24
Atelectasis .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3
Congenital Malformations...	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	3	6
Infective & Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
All other causes .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	6
TOTALS.....	1	5	1	1	17	13	5	6	13	62

## APPENDIX 12.

## INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR.

## DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 month & under 3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total deaths under 1 year	Deaths in Insti- tutions
Bronchitis.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	1
Pneumonia.....	—	1	—	1	2	4	5	3	2	16	9
Congestion of the Lungs.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Tuberculosis (non-respiratory).....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Gastritis .....	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Enteritis.....	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Premature Birth .....	23	—	1	—	24	—	—	—	—	24	22
Atelectasis .....	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3	3
Congenital Malformations.....	1	1	—	1	3	—	1	2	—	6	4
Infective and Parasitic Diseases.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
All other causes.....	3	—	1	1	5	—	—	—	1	6	3
TOTAL ALL CAUSES.....	30	2	4	3	39	4	9	7	3	62	44
CERTIFIED.....	26	2	4	3	35	4	9	7	3	58	—
UNCERTIFIED.....	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4	—

## APPENDIX 13

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR—HOSPITAL CASES.

DISEASE	Total Cases Notified	No. of such cases treated in hospital
Scarlet Fever .....	23	3
Whooping Cough .....	136	—
Measles .....	789	2
Pneumonia .....	24	4
Meningococcal Infection.....	4	3
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	2	2
Dysentery .....	28	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	5	4
Food Poisoning .....	3	—
Erysipelas .....	10	—

Disease	Hospital						Total
	Gr'ntully Mat.Hme	Brierton Hospital	General Hospital	Cameron Hospital	H'pools. Hospital	Other Hospitals	
Scarlet Fever.....	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .....	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia.....	—	—	4	—	—	—	4
Meningococcal Infection.....	—	2	1	—	—	—	3
Poliomyelitis .....	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Dysentery .....	—	1	2	—	—	—	3
Ophthalmia Neonat'm.	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	2	1	—	—	4
Food Poisoning .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Disease	Cases			Vision Impaired	Vision Un-impaired	Total Blind-ness	Deaths
	Notified	Treated					
		At Home	At Hospital				
Ophthalmia Neonatorum. . . .	1	—	1	—	1	—	—



APPENDIX 14.

NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE—1933-1954.

Disease	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Scarlet Fever .....	189	467	375	177	180	221	82	48	73	249	155	121	131	88	228	88	72	74	72	79	92	23
Whooping Cough.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	287	22	39	60	30	13	18	102	138	57	101	38	42	136
Diphtheria (including membraneous croup) ..	73	100	203	248	114	128	109	62	79	103	53	86	60	24	36	18	9	8	2	3	—	—
Measles .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	473	1590	513	960	543	231	627	408	327	749	407	973	718	228	789
Acute Pneumonia .....	137	131	126	133	153	147	97	97	117	119	139	83	65	117	128	88	88	104	131	29	27	24
Meningococcal Infection..	10	4	1	2	—	2	1	19	17	9	4	4	6	4	7	12	5	6	11	4	2	4
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	2	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	9	—	1	9	1	18	—	2
Paralytic.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Non-paralytic.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Acute Encephalitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post-infective .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica..	1	1	—	—	1	4	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polioencephalitis .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	14	24	28
Ophthalmia Neonatorum..	7	16	19	27	31	24	19	13	14	17	6	15	9	1	2	4	2	1	5	—	3	1
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	9	8	12	8	17	16	14	15	10	19	17	7	5	3	5	9	5	2	4	10	3	5
Puerperal Fever.....	3	2	15	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fevers .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric & Typhoid Fevers	29	4	9	3	2	2	10	3	12	1	2	—	—	2	2	—	6	—	—	—	7	33
Food Poisoning .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	9	4	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis..	84	74	76	104	111	66	79	86	95	97	94	120	87	97	102	129	81	113	80	74	75	80
Other forms of Tuberculosis	61	50	49	50	38	31	30	28	38	38	24	25	24	28	24	22	11	11	16	6	4	15
Erysipelas.....	28	49	35	37	36	60	27	17	18	22	23	20	15	10	11	21	22	11	8	4	8	10
Chickenpox.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria .....	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—

# APPENDIX 15.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES—AGE GROUPS AND WARD DISTRIBUTION.

Disease	Age Group Distribution													Ward Distribution of Cases								
	At all ages	Age un-known	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and up	North East	Central	North	West	Park	South West	South Seaton	
Scarlet Fever .....	23	—	—	—	—	1	3	16	2	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	4	1	5	6	1	3
Whooping Cough .....	136	1	6	20	17	16	28	48	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	17	21	10	12	13	31	21
Measles .....	789	—	32	101	135	143	126	247	4	1	2	6	5	7	66	105	98	81	75	71	201	92
Pneumonia .....	24	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	6	1	1	4	3	2	3	4
Meningococcal Infection .....	4	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	1	1	11	—	—	7	—	1	2
Dysentery .....	28	1	2	4	4	5	—	4	—	—	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	1	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning .....	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Tuberculosis (Respiratory) .....	80	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	4	16	25	8	24	—	12	16	15	7	4	9	7	10
Other Forms .....	15	—	—	1	2	—	—	2	2	—	4	1	2	1	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	1
Erysipelas .....	10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	3	3	1	—	1	3	2	—	2	1
Totals .....	1120	3	44	127	161	168	158	320	14	18	44	17	34	12	102	158	143	110	111	106	252	138

APPENDIX 16.

ALL NOTIFIED CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1954.

AGE	Lungs			Abdomen			Meninges			Joints			Spine			Other Organs			Disseminated			All Forms		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 .....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
1 and under 2.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
2 "	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
3 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
4 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" 10.	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3
" 15.	2	2	4	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	6
" 20.	8	8	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	8	16
" 25.	4	4	8	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	10
" 35.	9	8	17	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	10	19
" 45.	4	5	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	6	10
" 55.	8	4	12	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	4	13
" 65.	10	1	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	2	12
65 and over ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
TOTALS....	48	32	80	3	1	4	2	4	6	—	3	3	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	53	42	95



**APPENDIX 17.****UNSOUND FOOD SURRENDERED TO SANITARY  
INSPECTORS.**

- 635 lbs. carcase meat.
- 3,458 lbs. bacon and ham.
- 1,050 tins meat.
- 94 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. cooked meats.
- 101 $\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. sausages.
- 86 lbs. imported turkeys.
- 146 lbs. cheese.
- 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. butter.
- 21 lbs. margarine.
- 61 lbs. cooking fats.
- 2,824 tins fish, fruit and vegetables.
- 25 fish cakes.
- 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. fruit.
- 310 lbs. dried fruit.
- 96 $\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. preserves.
- 2 lbs. sugar.
- 36 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. sweets and chocolates.
- 59 $\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. cakes and biscuits.
- 23 lbs. puddings and pudding mixtures.
- 636 tins milk.
- 112 lbs. milk powder.
- 1,090 $\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. cereals.
- 7 lbs. yeast.
- 833 eggs.
- 96 lbs. preserved eggs.
- 60 jars pickles and sauces.
- 45 jars meat, etc. paste.
- 10 lbs. salt.
- 2 bottles soft drinks.
- 7 bottles cough mixture.
- 1 bottle halibut oil.
- 1 bottle coffee and chicory.
- 1 bottle cream.
- 2 tins infant food.

APPENDIX 18.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS, ACTS—ADULTERATED SAMPLES—ACTION TAKEN.

Article Purchased	Number Analysed	Formal Samples	Informal Samples	Number Genuine	Number Adulterated	No. of Sample	Nature of Adulteration	Remarks and Action Taken
Milk .....	90	20	70	65	25	179	Deficient in fat	Course of Delivery samples 190/191/192 taken. Appeal to Cow samples 196/197 taken. Warning letter sent to farmer.
						180	Deficient in fat	
						190	Deficient in fat.	
						196	Below standard in non-fatty solids.	
						197	Below standard in non-fatty solids.	
						183	Below standard in non-fatty solids but genuine.	Informal samples 260/261 genuine.
						186	Below standard in non-fatty solids. 4% added water.	Course of Delivery samples 193/194/195 taken.
						193	Below standard in non-fatty solids. 8% added water.	Appeal to Cow samples 194/195 genuine.
						219	Below standard in non-fatty solids and fat.	Proceedings instituted against farmer. Summons dismissed by magistrates; later convicted by direction of High Court. Fined 20s. 0d. and costs.
						220	Below standard in non-fatty solids and fat.	
						187	Below standard in non-fatty solids but genuine.	Informal sample 254 genuine.
						221	Below standard in non-fatty solids.	Informal sample 224 genuine.
						239	Below standard but genuine.	Informal sample 254 genuine.
						243	Below standard but genuine.	Informal samples 285/286 genuine.
						253	Below standard in fat.	Formal sample 256 taken. Farm visited—deficiency traced to innocent abstraction. Warning letter sent to farmer. Informal sample 312 genuine.
						256	Below standard in fat.	
						263	Deficient in fat.	Formal samples 272/273/274 genuine.
						267	Deficient in fat.	Formal samples 275/276 taken. Appeal to Cow samples 277/278 taken. Referred to County Milk Production Officer.
						268	Deficient in fat.	
						275	Deficient in fat.	
						276	Deficient in fat.	
						277	Deficient in fat.	
						278	Deficient in fat.	
						314	Below standard but genuine.	Informal samples 29/30 genuine.
						322	Slightly deficient in fat.	Formal samples 324/325 genuine.
Beef Sausages.....	6	1	5	5	1	172	Deficient in meat content.	Formal sample 214 genuine.
Pork Sausages .....	5	2	3	2	3	173	Deficient in meat content.	Formal sample 198 genuine.
						251	Deficient in meat content.	Formal sample 257 taken. Warning letter to manufacturer. Mixing methods at fault rectified.
						257	Deficient in meat content.	





## APPENDIX 18.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS, ACTS—ADULTERATED SAMPLES—ACTION TAKEN.  
*continued.*

Article Purchased	Number Analysed	Formal Samples	Informal Samples	Number Genuine	Number Adulterated	No. of Sample	Nature of Adulteration	Remarks and Action Taken
Buttered Macaroons.....	1	—	1	—	1	230	Incorrectly described — sample contained dessicated coconut as nut content instead of ground almonds.	Letter to manufacturer. Product re-named "Buttered coconut macaroons."
Rice Cake (made with Butter).	2	—	2	—	2	249 279	Contains fat other than butter fat. Contains fat other than butter fat.	Informal sample 279 taken. Manufacturer interviewed and description amended.
Rum and Butter Toffees.....	1	—	1	—	1	308	Not genuine Rum and Butter toffees.	Letter to retailer. Toffees re-named "Rum and Butter flavoured."
Dessiccated Coconut .....	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
Tapioca .....	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
Sleeping Tablets.....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Fish Dressing .....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Rum.....	3	—	3	3	—	—	—	—
Whisky .....	3	—	3	3	—	—	—	—
Sago .....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Ground Almonds .....	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
Ground Nutmeg.....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Powdered Gelatine.....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Tea.....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Ground Rice .....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
White Pepper .....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Baking Powder.....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Mustard.....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Preserves.....	4	—	4	4	—	—	—	—
Butter .....	3	—	3	3	—	—	—	—
Margarine .....	5	—	5	5	—	—	—	—
Cooking fat .....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Mincemeat.....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Coffee and Chicory Essence...	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Pure Devon Cream .....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Sauce .....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Minced Pork (Jar).....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Marzipan .....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Fruit Drinks.....	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
Coconut Macaroons .....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Slimming Tablets.....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Senna Pods .....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Glauber Salts .....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Camphorated Oil .....	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
Liquid Paraffin.....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
10-hour Cold Capsules.....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Skin Ointment .....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Butter Mints.....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Creamy Liquorice Bars .....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Butter drops.....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Buttered Brazil Toffee .....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—



## APPENDIX 19. PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

## Animals Slaughtered at Abattoir.

YEAR	BEASTS	SHEEP	CALVES	PIGS	TOTAL
1945	2,899	12,002	20	132	15,053
1946	3,526	14,617	634	22	18,799
1947	3,278	10,336	43	10	13,667
1948	2,947	9,867	2,424	44	15,282
1949	3,407	11,631	2,082	99	17,219
1950	4,257	13,049	324	444	18,074
1951	4,026	10,521	329	931	15,807
1952	4,094	14,278	486	1,830	20,688
1953	3,754	15,651	387	4,594	24,386
1954	5,713	16,858	189	12,724	35,484

YEAR	Total Cattle slaughtered (including calves)	Number affected with Tuber- culosis	Percentage affected	Total number of pigs slaughtered	Number affected with Tuber- culosis	Percentage affected
1945	2,919	154	5.31	132	3	2.27
1946	4,160	225	6.38	22	—	—
1947	3,321	417	12.55	10	1	10.00
1948	5,371	461	8.58	44	4	9.09
1949	5,489	826	15.05	99	11	11.11
1950	4,581	1,239	27.05	444	21	4.73
1951	4,355	1,315	30.19	931	52	5.58
1952	4,580	1,126	24.58	1,830	138	7.54
1953	4,141	1,405	33.93	4,594	284	6.18
1954	5,902	982	16.63	12,724	339	2.66

## CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle, including Cows	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed .....	5,713	Not known	Not known	189	16,858	12,724
Number inspected .....	5,713	Not known	Not known	189	16,858	12,724
TUBERCULOSIS :—						
Whole carcasses condemned.	19	11	8	—	—	12
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned..	963	755	208	—	—	327
Percentage .....	17.18	Not known	Not known	—	—	2.66
OTHER DISEASE :—						
Whole carcasses condemned.	18	3	15	6	37	26
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned..	1,655	1,411	244	5	1,612	1,432
Percentage .....	29.28	Not known	Not known	5.82	9.78	11.45



## APPENDIX 20.

## FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH  
(INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS).

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Prosecutions (5)
Factories without mechanical power.....	113	12	1	—
Factories with mechanical power.....	216	91	2	—
Other Premises under the Act, including works of building and engineering con- struction but not including outworkers' premises.....	16	3	1	—
TOTAL.....	345	106	4	—

## DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS  (1)	Number of Defects				No. of cases in respect of which prose- cutions were instituted (6)
	Found  (2)	Remedied  (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness . . . . .	1	1	—	1	—
Overcrowding . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :—					
(a) Insufficient . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective . . .	12	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) . . . . .	6	—	6	—	—
TOTALS . . . . .	19	3	6	1	—